Increasing freight earnings of Railways

3779. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aiming to increase the freight earnings of railways and cut load on road traffic;

(b) if so, the details worked out, so far; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Government are aiming to increase the freight earnings of Railways.

(b) For the year 2006-07, the freight loading target has been set at 726 million tonnes and freight output at 479 billion tonne kilometers. Revenues in freight in the year 2006-07 is expected to be Rs. 40320 crore.

(c) In order to generate additional traffic, Indian Railways have introduced various schemes such as Freight Forwarder Scheme, Traditional Empty Flow Direction Freight Discount Scheme, Loyalty Discount Scheme, Long-term Special Incentive Scheme, Mini Rake, Two-point Rake Scheme, Wagon Investment Scheme (WIS), Development of Rail-side Warehousing complexes through Public Private partnership (RWCs) and Liberalization of siding rules.

Railway land in Delhi

†3780. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a vast area of railway land is available around old Delhi, New Delhi and Nizamuddin railway stations in the capital city Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken or propose to be taken by Government for proper utilization of this railway land available around the said railway stations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.